

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE



Patent

In Re:

Application Number: 10/045,082

Examiner: [none yet]

Applicants: Edward Samson Chiu et al

Group Art Unit No.: 3753

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Preliminary Class: 137

For: Mixing faucet having multiple discharges

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

37 C.F.R. § 1.97 Information Disclosure Statement

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
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Dear Sir:

Please find enclosed ten (10) U.S. patents, which are a part of my IDS statement. I am submitting this correspondence within 3 months from filing the patent application.

The patents are:

1. Reber	3,965,937	June 29, 1976
2. Chyen	5,195,681	Mar. 23, 1993
3. Chiu	5,634,220	June 3, 1997
4. Bertrand et al	5,823,229	Oct. 20, 1998
5. Ko	5,871,032	Feb. 16, 1999
6. Dimmer	5,887,796	Mar. 30, 1999
7. Humpert et al	6,085,790	July 11, 2000
8. Bovaird et al	6,093,313	July 25, 2000

 11/25/03

 9. Costello et al	D-441,835 S	May 8, 2001
 10. Brandebusemeyer	US2001/0044955 A1	Nov. 29, 2001

Discussion

Reber	3,965,937	June 29, 1976
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FIG 1, along with column 1, lines 47 – 50 and column 2, line 37, discloses a washbasin faucet having a gooseneck portion (3), a downward water channel (1) and a side water outlet (23).

Chyen	5,195,681	Mar. 23, 1993
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FIG 1 and column 2, lines 20 – 26, illustrate a faucet with an upper tube hole (22) and a bottom discharge outlet (14). Water can come out either opening, yet by occluding the bottom outlet (14) water squirts upward out of tube hole (22).

Chiu	5,634,220	June 3, 1997
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In FIGS 1, 2 and 3, plus column 2, lines 7 – 15, a double functional faucet is shown having a large passage (112) which discharges water downward, and a small passage (111) within the large passage. The small passage also discharges water downward.

Bertrand et al	5,823,229	Oct. 20, 1998
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FIG 2, and column 9, lines 15 – 20, reveal a faucet having multiple discharges, specifically a spray discharge (484) and a stream discharge (482).

Ko	5,871,032	Feb. 16, 1999
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In FIG 2 and column 2, lines 9 –17, a diverter valve assembly is shown. The tubular section (41) has multiple outlet tubes (44) on one end.

Dimmer

5,887,796

Mar. 30, 1999

FIG 2 and claim 1 reveal a multiple discharge nozzle with an outlet end (20) and a spray nozzle (40) at 90° angles to one another.

Humpert et al

6,085,790

July 11, 2000

Column 4, lines 33 – 42 talks about the internal functioning of the dual flow faucet head and how water diversion occurs down out of an aerator (51).

Bovaird et al

6,093,313

July 25, 2000

FIGS 1 and 2, in addition to column 3, lines 4 – 7, depict downward discharges (26) and (24) located on the end of a water faucet with a self-contained filter.

Costello et al

D-441,835 S

May 8, 2001

The design patent in FIGS 1, 2 and 6 illustrate a faucet with one large and one small downward discharge at the very end.

Brandebusemeyer

US2001/0044955 A1

Nov. 29, 2001

FIG 1 and paragraph [0020] on page 2 reveal aerator outlets (21) and (22) located on the end of a dual outlet faucet. Both let water flow downward.